

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

District Two

May 2011 Edition

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Welcome!

It's a pleasure to connect with my constituents and highlight informational programs, services and area events happening throughout our District Two community and Howard County.

Know of any great community events? Please share them with my office so that I may review them for inclusion in this newsletter!

For your convenience, I have included at the end of this edition

opportunities on how you can get involved in our community through volunteering or participation on County Boards.

Please feel free to share this Bulletin with friends, neighbors, and community organizations. If you don't already receive this bulletin directly and would like to subscribe, email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

Part-time Event and Administrative Coordinator Available!

The Oakland Mills Community Association seeks a part-time Event and Administrative Coordinator. Strong administrative and computer skills are required. This person will be responsible for creating and planning community events and programs and handle administrative tasks. If you're interested, email the OM Village Manager at omca@columbiavillages.org to request a more detailed job description and an employment application.

Prom & Graduation Season Have Arrived - Remind Your Teens to Stay Safe & Avoid Alcohol!

With the start of prom and graduation season, the Howard County Police Department is reminding teens and parents to reinforce the legal and safety consequences of underage drinking. Public safety messages will be distributed to teens with their tickets to both events, but it's important for parents to take an active role in spreading this message.

As a reminder, teens that buy or possess alcohol under the age of 21 can result in multiple criminal charges including alcohol possession, misrepresentation of age to obtain alcohol and possession of a fake ID. Each charge carries a \$500 fine and violators must appear in court. Charges for consuming alcohol while driving, or driving under the influence each carry fines of \$500 and, for a DUI conviction, the loss of a license for 120 days or more. Young people driving with provisional licenses must be conviction-free for 18 months before they are eligible to obtain a driver's license.

For a second consecutive year, the county is awarding all 12 high school's Parent Teacher Student Associations grants of \$2,000 from the Drug Asset Forfeiture fund. The money from this fund will be used to pay for facility rental, food and refreshments, and/or entertainment at each school's "Project Safe and After Prom" party.

As always, please use extreme caution while driving. Our police will increase traffic enforcement on roadways around high schools in the county, particularly during arrival and departure times and hope to reduce speeding and aggressive driving while increasing seatbelt use among student drivers.

5K Run for the Homeless!

Council Chairman Calvin Ball and Mid-Maryland Baptist Association have joined forces to sponsor a 5K Run to benefit the Route 1 Day Center, a Grassroots 501(c)3 organization serving homeless families in Howard County. The Center is an invaluable resource to individuals and families in need and provide hot meals, clean clothes, camping items, referral opportunities, basic preventative medical care and crisis intervention to approximately 200 people every month.

The "Hope for the Homeless" 5K run will be held **Saturday, May 7, 2011** beginning at **9am** at **Rockburn Park** in Ellicott City, MD. Registration is \$25 per runner. For more information, registration forms or for donation opportunities, visit www.hopeforhomeless5K.com.

Get Involved in the 2011 Howard County Budget Process!

On Friday, April 1, 2011, County Executive Ulman submitted a proposed capital and operating budgets for Howard County's public agencies to the County Council for review and approval. The Council may approve the budgets as submitted or make reductions. The Council may not increase the Executive's budgets, but may restore any amount to the Board of Education Budget that was not included by the Executive. The capital budgets include all building and long-term construction projects and programs planned for the next fiscal year and for the ensuing nine years. The operating budgets include each department's proposed programs and services for the next fiscal year and their cost.

The Council has scheduled a number of public hearings to receive testimony on each department's capital and operating budgets. You may testify in person at a public hearing, submit written testimony to: Stephen LeGendre, Administrator, Howard County Council, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043, email councilmail@howardcountymd.gov or fax 410-313-3297 testimony to the Council at any time during the budget process. Public Hearings and legislative sessions are held in the Banneker Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City, MD. Work sessions are held in the C. Vernon Gray Conference Room in the George Howard Building. Persons needing accommodations to fully participate in a meeting are asked to contact the Council office at least eight working days in advance by calling 410-313-2001.

- **Saturday, May 7, 9am:** Public Hearing – Capital and Operating Budgets: Board of Education, Library, Howard Community College
- **Tuesday, May 10, 9:30am:** Work Session – Community Services, Funds/Revenues
- **Tuesday, May 10, 11am:** Public Hearing – General
- **Thursday, May 12, 8:30am:** Work Session – Capital and Operating Budgets: Board of Education
- **Thursday, May 12, 11am:** Work Session – Capital and Operating Budgets: Library
- **Thursday, May 12, 1pm:** Work Session – Capital and Operating Budgets: Howard Community College
- **Monday, May 16, 7:30pm:** Legislative Public Hearing – Including budget related legislation
- **Wednesday, May 18, 4:30pm:** Work Session – Operating Budget – General Government
- **Friday, May 20, 9:30am:** Work Session (if needed) – Pending issues
- **Wednesday, May 25 10:30am:** Legislative Session – Adopt Budget

Join the Consumer Affairs Advisory Board!

Calling all Howard County residents 18 years or older. If you have an interest in consumer issues and a willingness to serve a five-year term as a member of the County's Consumer Affairs Advisory Board, you are encouraged to apply! Membership must be reflective of a cross-section of consumer and business interests. Therefore, three positions available are for: one representative from a consumer interest group and two representatives from business interest groups.

The Board meets on the **third Wednesday** of each month from **7:30-9:30pm** and is composed of seven voting members who are responsible for reviewing the Office of Consumer Affairs programs, hold public hearings as deemed necessary and make recommendations to the Office on how it may better carry out its duties.

The deadline is **Friday, May 6, 2011**. Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they would like to serve on the Board and the vacancy they would like to fill prior to the deadline to: Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: **Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043**. For more information about the Office of Consumer Affairs and the Advisory Board, visit <http://consumer.howardcountymd.gov> or call **410-313-6420**.

Camp Day 2011!

Join the Department of Recreation & Parks for Camp Day 2011 on **Saturday, May 7, 2011** from **8:30am-12:30pm** at **Centennial Park, 10000 Route 108 in Ellicott City, MD**. This event is **FREE** and open to the public. Information about the Department's summer camps will be available and will feature kids' activities, live entertainment, face painting and a chance to win Recreation & Parks gift certificates.

For more details, call the Department of Recreation & Parks at **410-3131-4700**.

A Better High: Supporting Teens in Making Healthy Choices!

Comedian/Motivational Speaker, Matt Bellace, Ph.D. will encourage our students to pursue natural highs and make health choices. This event is hosted by HC Drug Free and is **FREE** and open to the public. It will be held on **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** at **7pm, Atholton High School**.

For more details, contact **Joan Webb Scornaienchi** at **443-325-0040**, email joan@hcdrugfree.org or visit www.hcdrugfree.org.

11th Annual BikeAbout & Save the Planet Day!

Columbia Association will host its 11th annual BikeAbout and Town Center walking tour on **Saturday, May 14, 2011** located at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront. Participants may begin the ride anytime between **9:30-10:30am**. The Town Center walking tour will begin at **10:30am**. After the ride or walk, everyone is invited to think "green" and participate in Save the Planet Day which is scheduled to begin at **11am**.

Pre-registration for BikeAbout is encouraged. Registration forms are available at CA Headquarters (10221 Wincopin Circle), Columbia Archives (10227 Wincopin Circle) or online at www.columbiaarchives.org/files/pdfs/2011BikeAboutRegistration.pdf. For more info, contact **Barbara Kellner** at **410-715-3103** or email Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.com.

SPOTLIGHT ON HOWARD COUNTY!

I'd like to take a brief moment and acknowledge an outstanding individual whom recently I've had the privilege to present with an Joint Proclamation on behalf of the County Executive's Office and the Howard County Council.

OMHS Boys' Basketball Team for their outstanding undefeated season.

2001 Gospel Extravaganza hosted in conjunction with the Howard County Office on Aging and the Tau Pi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

National Police Week saluting the service of law enforcement officers in our communities and in communities across the nation.

14th Annual Cuts Against Cancer!

On **Sunday, May 15, 2011**, the 14th annual Cuts Against Cancer will be held from **10am-4pm** on the **lower level** of the **Medical Pavilion at Howard County, 10710 Charter Drive in Columbia, MD**. This philanthropic event raises money for the Claudia Mayer Cancer Resource Center. Walk-ins only (first come, first served) - **NO** appointments will be taken.

Pricing is as follows: Haircuts (includes blowdry – please arrive with clean hair) \$35, Manicures \$15 (15 minutes), Facial Waxing: Brow, Lip or Chin \$10 each or 3 for \$24. Attendees will also have an opportunity to participate in over 25 silent auction items, raffles & door prizes throughout the day. All proceeds will go directly to the Claudia Mayer Cancer Resource Center.

For more details, call **Pam Mason** at **410-381-2440** or **Anita Broccolino** at **410-740-7570** or email abroccolino@hcgh.org.

Charter Review Commission Meetings Open to the Public!

Stay engaged! Unless otherwise noted, the Charter Review Commission will be holding its meetings at 9am in the CVG Room at the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City. Meetings are scheduled: **5/18, 6/2, 6/23, 7/14, 7/28, 8/11 & 8/25**. If you are interested in providing feedback into the Charter review, please email CharterReview@howardcountymd.gov. For more details, contact **Meredith Beach** at mbeach@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2001**.

Collision Avoidance Training!

Learn how to handle your car in any situation. Designed especially for new drivers who want more specialized experience on the road, Collision Avoidance Training teaches hands-on techniques for evasive maneuvers, emergency braking, cornering, backing, skid recovery, steering, acceleration and more.

The cost of the course is \$95 and is open to licensed teens ages 16-19. Classes for 2011 will be held on the following dates: **5/20 & 5/21, 6/24 & 6/25**. For more information, visit www.hcpd.org or call **410-313-3758**.

Wine in the Woods!

On **Saturday, May 21 through Sunday, May 22, 2011**, join attendees across the state for the 19th consecutive Wine in the Woods festival. Held in Symphony Woods, adjacent to Merriweather Post Pavilion, attendees will have the opportunity to sample from over 38 of Maryland's finest wineries, sharpen their palate by attending wine education seminars and revel in continuous live entertainment.

There will be an abundance of food to purchase and exceptional works of art and specialty crafts to check out. You must be 21 to drink. Tickets for those 21 and above are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the gate. Those ages 3-20 are \$5. Online ticket sales begin Thursday, March 3, 2011 and require an approved online account. Online advance purchase ends Wednesday, May 11, 2011. Tickets can also be purchased in person from May 12-20 at the Department of Recreation and Parks, 7120 Oakland Mills Road, the Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville and the Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia, MD.

To learn more about the Department's designated driver program, call **410-313-4700**. Designated Driver tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the gate. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information, visit www.wineinthewoods.com.

Bike to Work/School Day!

To encourage cycling as transportation, join us on **Friday, May 20, 2011** in the Sears parking lot at The Mall in Columbia from **7am-9:30am** to kick off Bike to Work Day in Howard County. Learn safety tips, register to win prizes and much more! This event is **FREE** and open to the public. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged to receive event t-shirt and goodies.

For more details, email rejson@howardcountymd.gov.

HCPSS Presents Second Annual HC Stars Celebration!

On **Saturday, May 28, 2011** HC Stars will host its second annual end-of-the-year Celebration at **6pm at River Hill High School, 12101 Clarksville Pike in Clarksville, MD**. This event will bring together over 600 high school students to celebrate a community of theatre artists and an opportunity for high school theatre artists from across the county to come together and celebrate a season of outstanding work.

The event is open to the public. **Tickets are \$10**. For more details, email tracy_adler@hcpss.org.

Howard County 3rd Annual Men's Health Fair!

Howard County Council Chairman Calvin Ball hosts his 3rd annual Men's Health Fair in partnership with the Howard County Health Department. It will be held on **Saturday, June 4, 2011** from **10am-2pm** at **Howard High School, 8700 Old Annapolis Road in Ellicott City, MD**.

Enjoy **FREE** healthy food samples while taking advantage of **FREE** screenings including kidney diseases, cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure, BMI, bone density, glaucoma and vision acuity to name just a few. There will also be a wealth of resources on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. This event remains **FREE** and open to the public. Exhibitor space is still available.

For more details, call **Kimberly Pruim** at **410-313-3105**.

Summer Reading Kickoff!

The Summer Reading Kickoff will begin on **Saturday, June 4, 2011** at the **East Columbia Branch Library, 5500 Cradlerock Way in Columbia, MD**. For more details, call **410-313-7700**.

Morgan State University Hosts Science, Engineering, Mathematics & Aerospace Academy!

Summer Science Camp 2011 is almost upon us! Morgan State University will be hosting a **FREE** Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy for students K-12. **Session 1: June 27-July1; Session 2: July 5-8; Session 3: July 11-15; and Session 4 July 18-22.**

Classes are from **10am-1pm Monday through Friday**. Lunch is provided. To register, please call the SEMAA Office 10am-6pm Monday-Friday or come to Morgan State University Montebellow Complex Room C-108, 2201 Argonne Drive in Baltimore, MD. For more details, call **443-885-3304/3307**.

Domestic Violence Center to Expand its Sexual Assault Services

The Domestic Violence Center (DVC) is pleased to announce a collaborative effort with the Howard County Police Department and the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) to expand DVS's sexual assault services with the hire of a Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Clinician who will be based at the CAC. For more details, call **410-997-0304** or visit www.dvcenter.org.

Commissioners Wanted for HC Commission on Disability Issues!

The Howard County Commission on Disability Issues is currently accepting applications for individuals interested in serving a five-year term as a Commissioner. To be eligible for consideration, candidates must be a Howard County resident, 18 years of age or older, have an interest in disability issues and be able to attend the Commission's meetings on the third Monday of each month from 6-8:30pm.

Applicants must submit a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve on the Commission to: **Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043**. The names of approved candidates will be sent to the County Executive, who will then submit his recommendations to the County Council for confirmation.

For more information, call **Joyce Lehrer** at **410-313-6431** or email jlehrer@howardcountymd.gov.

"Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at www.commuterconnections.org or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

Alzheimer's Early-Stage Programs Now Available!

The Alzheimer's Early-Stage Social Club meets Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Pre-screening is required. To reserve your space and/or for pre-screening, call **Judy Miller** at 410-313-5441. For more information on the Alzheimer's association, call 1-800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/maryland.

BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information? The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at www.bbimatchup.com and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

The BBI In Progress Review will be held on **Tuesday, May 31, 2011** from 7:30am-11am at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, #2 in Columbia, MD**. An In Progress Review will be presented covering the past 6 months of the BBI program and an update to the Executive Group consisting of Congressman Cummings, Congressman Sarbanes, County Executive Ulman and HCC President Hetherington. All test companies should attend. Partner companies are asked to attend and the public is invited. This event is **FREE**.

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at 410-313-6376 or email rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov.

Mentors & Tutors Wanted!

A-OK (Assisting Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring Program needs adult volunteers to work in Howard County schools, grades K-8, and after-school programs. A-OK works with several schools including Oakland Mills MS, Phelps Luck and Talbott Springs ES. For more info, call 410-730-2273 or email chayakaplan@verizon.net

Newest Feature for Maryland's Workforce Exchange!

This week, a new web feature was unveiled on Maryland's Workforce Exchange. The new feature uses web "spidering technology" which collects and combines every job search website, every employer website, and every job posting in Maryland and creates a real-time, web-based, one-stop shop for Maryland job seekers.

Job seekers in Maryland can now search more than 80,000 presently open and active jobs across Maryland, indicating that while Maryland comes through this national recession, our State's employers ARE hiring! For more info or to apply, visit <https://mwe.dllr.state.md.us/default.asp?SessionUID=a>

March Economic Indicators for Howard County!

The Howard County Government and the Howard County Chamber of Commerce recently released a joint publication describing economic indicators for Howard County and surrounding areas. This information is able to provide advance warning of possible shifts in the local economy that may be helpful in the evaluation of current and future government policies and private sector business decisions.

To view this report, visit www.co.ho.md.us/DOA/DOApdfs/March_2011.pdf.

Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

Howard County Library www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22

FINALLY! Something to Do in Howard County

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379

Youth Howard County www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit www.co.ho.md.us/DPW/docs/recycling_chart_web.pdf or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/DPW/Environmental_Homepage.htm.

At-Large Members Needed for Community Advisory Council!

The Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education is currently seeking at-large members for the coming school year. The council sponsors educational programming for members and provides the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, educational policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee meets at 7:30pm the third Tuesday of each month at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. At-large members serve a two-year term. For more information, please call 410-313-6682 or email tjmallo@verizon.net.

RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open 8am-4pm Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call 410-313-6444.

How and When to Use the Emergency Room!

Remember in Howard County, there are a number of affordable alternatives to the Emergency Room if you are ill (coughs, colds, ear infections, minor burns, strains/sprains), but **not** experiencing a medical emergency. These "minute clinics" are a great resource to receive medical attention on a weekend, late night, or simply when your regular physician cannot see you. Many have extended and weekend hours and do not require appointments. Most accept insurance but please call the provider/clinic for details.

For a list of providers, visit <http://www.co.ho.md.us/health/docs/urgentcarecenterslist5-2010.pdf>. For additional information, contact our Health Department online at http://www.co.ho.md.us/Health/HealthMain/Health_HomePage.htm or call 410-313-6300.

Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

The Columbia Association (CA) and the Howard County Police Department (HCPD) have joined forces to enhance the safety of our residents in Columbia and Howard County at large.

Every month, safety tips and valuable information will be added to their newly formed website www.howardcountysafety.org. I encourage residents to continuously check this site for helpful hints to protect yourself and property and potentially reduce crime through your efforts!

Boards and Commissions Vacancies!

Howard County is well known for our active and informed residents which I proudly represent. Howard County Boards and Commissions brings meaning to “government of the people, by the people and for the people.” They provide a vital link between our citizens and the officials who serve them. P

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to submit a current resume along with a cover letter highlighting interests or experience which would be beneficial to the Board or Commission to which application is being made. Letters should be addressed to: **County Executive, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.**

As vacancies occur on the various boards or commissions, interviews are scheduled with interested parties. For current vacancies and special requirements, please call **Eileen Weber**, County Executive Office at **410-313-2013**.

Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money. In addition to the information below, I encourage residents to visit our Howard County Government’s website at www.co.ho.md.us/servicesresidents_financialassistance.htm. On this site, you will find resources for a variety of assistance including but not limited to child care, food, energy, water and housing.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOF_RealPropertyTaxInformation.htm or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Senior Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/SeniorCreditApp.pdf

Homeowners Tax Credit: www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/HTC-60.pdf

Homestead Tax Credit: www.dat.state.md.us

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Daycare.pdf

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/Emergencyworker.pdf

Disabled Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/DisabledPoliceRescueWorker.pdf

Community Associations Tax Credit: www.howardcountymd.gov/DOF/DOFDOCS/CommAssoc.pdf

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men’s Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at www.grassrootscrisis.org. The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Auditor_FraudAlertForm.asp. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous by leaving blank those fields requesting personal information. You should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call 410-313-2005.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To Schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.

How You Can Participate in Howard County Government!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email or fax.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. Click on the following link for the Council's calendar of meetings
http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_Legislative_CouncilCalendar.htm

Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

We Want to Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of upcoming Council meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions, please call the contact number listed for that meeting. http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
District 2
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Ellicott City, MD 21043

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http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

View the Council's Current Legislation and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/Legislative_Pending.htm

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Mohandas Gandhi